



EPA completes cleanup of former American Glue and Resin facility

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
American Glue and Resin Site

Community Update #2
Middleton, MA

EPA's cleanup is complete!!

This week, EPA completed its cleanup work at the former American Glue and Resin facility in Middleton, Massachusetts. EPA has removed the hazardous substances contained in drums, open pits, and other containers that they identified in and around the building onsite. Risks to human health and the environment once posed by these substances are now significantly reduced due to EPA's work.

Now, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will begin work to further assess groundwater conditions beneath the site. Over the course of the next several weeks, DEP will collect and analyze groundwater samples from on-site monitoring wells to better characterize the extent of remaining contamination in the groundwater, and identify any potential impacts from this contamination on public health and the environment. If you have questions about DEP's groundwater assessment work, please contact *Steve Roberson, DEP* at 978.661.7732.

What did EPA accomplish during this cleanup?

Over the course of the past three months, EPA has removed all of the leaking and deteriorating drums inside of the building. Many of these drums contained

hazardous substances such as toluene, acetone, and chemicals associated with the glue manufacturing process. In all, EPA:

- ✓ repackaged 511 drums and safely transported them offsite for disposal. Included in those drums were 3000 lbs. of contaminated sludge and 660 gallons of contaminated liquids removed from open pits inside of the building;
- ✓ removed approximately 19 tons of solid waste from a disposal container located adjacent to the loading dock of the building;
- ✓ sampled and analyzed soils in areas of concern immediately adjacent to the building. In these areas of concern, EPA found contamination in the top 3 inches of soil, which was removed and transported off-site to an appropriate disposal facility; EPA sampling results indicated no detections of contaminants related to the site below the top 3 inches.

Environmental Response History

In September 1998, the EPA and DEP conducted an emergency removal evaluation at the Site. During the evaluation, EPA and DEP found approximately 500 labeled and unlabeled, 55 gallon abandoned drums in the building. The drums were extremely deteriorated and improperly

staged. Consequently, in February 1999, EPA began cleanup work.

Located at 40 School Street, the Glennon-American, Inc. and the American Glue and Resin Company used the 3.2 acre site to manufacture adhesives for over two decades, beginning in 1970. Operations shut down in the early 1990's. An abandoned 10,000 square foot, one-story, concrete-block constructed building is located on the property. The site and building are currently unoccupied.

***If you have any questions about
EPA's American Glue & Resin
cleanup, use EPA's toll-free
number,
1-888-372-7341 to contact:***

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